

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A container neck comprising:
a finish terminating in an opening;
~~an a circumferential~~ upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;
a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and
~~a flange having undulations in a top surface, said flange extending radially outward~~ from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall.
2. (Original) The container neck of claim 1, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.
3. (Original) The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations are arcuate.
4. (Original) The container neck of claim 3, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.
5. (Original) The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations have linear sides and a substantially triangular shape.
6. (Original) The container neck of claim 1, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.
7. (Currently Amended) The container neck of claim 1, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond ~~the an~~ outer periphery of said undulations.

8. (Currently Amended) The container neck of claim 1, wherein the container adopted is adapted for hot-fill processing.

9. (Original) The container neck of claim 2, comprising eight peaks.

10. (Currently Amended) A container comprising
a neck portion comprising
a finish terminating in an opening;
~~an~~ a circumferential upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;
a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and
~~a flange having undulations in a top surface, said flange extending radially outward~~ from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall;
a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion; and
a base portion below said container sidewall portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 10, wherein, wherein said undulations are arcuate.

12. (Original) The container of claim 11, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.

13. (Original) The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations are linear forming a triangular shape.

14. (Original) The container of claim 10, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.

15. (Original) The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.

16. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 10, wherein the container is adapted for hot fill processing.

17. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 10, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond ~~the~~ an outer periphery of said undulations.

18. (Original) The container of claim 15, comprising eight peaks.

19. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 10, said container sidewall portion comprising four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel.

20. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 19, wherein the container sidewall portion comprises an inset between two adjacent planar panels.

21. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 19, wherein said container sidewall portion comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

22. (Original) The container of claim 21, further comprising an inset in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

23. (Original) The container of claim 22, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.

24. (Original) The container of claim 10, said container sidewall comprising an upper bumper and a lower bumper and an inset region between said upper bumper and said lower bumper.

25. (Currently Amended) A container comprising:

 a neck portion comprising

 a finish terminating in an opening;

an a circumferential upper sidewall connected to said finish;

 a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and

 a flange ~~having undulations in a top surface, said flange~~ extending radially outward from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewalls, wherein the flange includes undulations on a top surface, the undulations extending radially outward from said upper sidewall;

 a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion, said container sidewall portion comprising

 four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel; and

 an inset between two adjacent planar panels; and

 a base portion below said container sidewall portion.

26. (Currently Amended) The container of claim 25, wherein said container sidewall portion comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

27. (Original) The container of claim 25, wherein said inset is in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

28. (Original) The container of claim 25, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.